

1. A portable card for use in a data utilization device including a PCMCIA Type III compatible card slot, the card comprising:

means for receiving an RJ-xx series plug having a biased clip and for making electrical connection with at least first and second electrical contacts provided on the plug; and

means for receiving a first memory card when the portable card is disposed within the PCMCIA Type III card slot.

2. A portable card for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 1 wherein the first memory card comprises a nonvolatile memory card.

3. A portable card for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 1 further comprising means for receiving a second memory card, simultaneously with the first memory card, when the portable card is disposed within the PCMCIA Type III card slot, the first and the second memory cards complying with a standard selected from the group consisting of the compact flash memory standard and the miniature card standard.

4. A portable card for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 1 wherein the means for receiving an RJ-xx series plug having a biased clip and for making electrical connection with at least first and second electrical contacts provided on the plug comprises a first RJ-xx series receptacle and a second RJ-xx series receptacle.

5. A communications card for use in a data utilization device and for receiving an RJ-xx series plug having a biased clip and for making electrical connection with at least first and second electrical contacts provided on the plug, comprising:

a pivoting cover provided on a first end of the communications card, the pivoting cover having an open position and a closed position;

recess means for receiving the plug within the pivoting cover when the pivoting cover is in the open position, the recess means having dimensions such that the plug is closely received therein;

a first electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the first electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a first electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means;

a second electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the second electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a second electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means; and

means for conveying any electrical signal present on the first and second electrical contacts to the computing device.

6. A communications card for use in a data utilization device and for receiving an RJ-xx series plug having a biased clip and for making electrical connection with at least first and second electrical contacts provided on the plug, comprising:

a pivoting cover provided on a first end of the communications card, the pivoting cover having an open position and a closed position;

recess means formed in the first end of the communications card, the recess means having dimensions such that the plug is closely received therein;

a first electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the first electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a first electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means;

a second electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the second electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a second electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means;

a clip holder pivotally attached to the first end of the communications card, the clip holder having an aperture therein which is adapted to receive a clip on the plug such that operative connection with the plug is maintained; and

means for conveying any electrical signal present on the first and second electrical contacts to the data utilization device.

7. A communications card for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 6 wherein the pivoting cover and the clip holder are both partially disposed in the recess means when in their closed position.

8. A communications card for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 6 further comprising means for biasing the clip holder in the closed position.

9. A communications card for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 6 wherein the pivoting cover is attached adjacent to the lower edge of the first end of the communications card and adjacent to the recess means.

10. A communications card for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 6 wherein the recess means comprises a rectangular recess in the first end of the communications card.

11. A communications card for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 6 wherein the plug comprises a plug selected from the group consisting of the RJ-11, RJ-12, and RJ-45 plugs.

12. A communications connector for use in a data utilization device and for receiving an RJ-xx series plug having a biased clip and for making electrical connection with at least first and second electrical contacts provided on the plug, comprising:

a drawer, the drawer positioned on an end of the data utilization device;

means for retracting and extending the drawer into and out of the data utilization device, the drawer having a first extended open position and a second retracted position;

recess means for holding the plug, the recess means formed in the drawer, the recess means having dimensions such that the plug is closely received therein along at least portions of three sides of the plug;

a first electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the first electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a first

electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means;

5 a second electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the second electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a second electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means;

10 a clip holder pivotally attached to the drawer, the clip holder having an aperture therein which is adapted to receive a clip on the plug such that operative connection with the plug is maintained when the plug is receiving in the recess means; and

15 means for conveying any electrical signal present on the first and second electrical contacts to the data utilization device.

20 13. A communications connector for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 12 wherein the drawer has a V-shaped cross section and wherein the clip holder has a V-shaped cross section and wherein the clip holder is mated with the drawer when the drawer is retracted into the data utilization device.

25 14. A communications connector for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 12 further comprising means for biasing the clip holder in a closed position.

30 15. A communications connector for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 12 wherein the pivoting cover is attached adjacent to the lower edge of the first end of the communications card and adjacent to the recess means.

35 16. A communications connector for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 12 further comprising means for biasing the drawer to its extended position and means for selectively holding the drawer in its retracted position.

40 17. A communications connector for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 12 wherein the recess means comprises a rectangular recess formed in the drawer.

18. A communications connector for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 12 wherein the plug comprises a plug selected from the group consisting of the RJ-11, RJ-12, and RJ-45 plugs.

5 19. A communications card for use in a data utilization device and for receiving an RJ-xx series plug having a biased clip and for making electrical connection with at least first and second electrical contacts provided on the plug, comprising:

10 a sliding drawer provided on a first end of the communications card, the sliding drawer having an open position and a closed position;

15 recess means for receiving the plug within the sliding drawer when the sliding drawer is in the open position, the recess means having dimensions such that the plug is closely received therein;

20 first electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the first electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a first electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means;

25 second electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the second electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a second electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means; and

means for conveying any electrical signal present on the first and second electrical contacts to the computing device.

30 20. A communications connector for use in a communications device and for receiving an RJ-xx series plug having a biased clip and for making electrical connection with at least first and second electrical contacts provided on the plug, comprising:

35 a sliding drawer provided on a first end of the communications device, the sliding drawer having an open position and a closed position;

40 recess means for receiving the plug within the sliding drawer when the sliding drawer is in the open position, the recess means having dimensions such that the plug is closely received therein;

a bottom formed on the sliding drawer;

means for moving the bottom out of the sliding drawer when the drawer is in the open position;

a first electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the first electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a first electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means;

a second electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the second electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a second electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means; and

means for conveying any electrical signal present on the first and second electrical contacts to the communications device.

21. A communications connector for use in a communications device as defined in claim 20 wherein the communications device comprises a PCMCIA Type III compliant communications card.

22. A communications connector for use in a communications device as defined in claim 20 sliding drawer extends out of the communications card when in its open position.

23. A communications connector for use in a communications device as defined in claim 20 further comprising means for biasing the bottom to a compact configuration when the plug is not received within the sliding drawer.

24. A communications card for use in a data utilization device and for receiving an RJ-xx series plug having a biased clip and for making electrical connection with at least first and second electrical contacts provided on the plug, comprising:

a first jaw provided on a first end of the communications card;

a second jaw provided on a first end of the communications card;

means for moving the first jaw and the second jaw between a first position extending out of the

communications card and a second position retracted into the communications card;

5 recess means for receiving the plug, the recess means formed by a space between the first jaw and the second jaw, and bounded by the first jaw and the second jaw, when the first and second jaws are in their first extended positions, the recess means having dimensions such that the plug is closely received therein;

10 a first electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the first electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a first electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means;

15 a second electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the second electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a second electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means; and

20 means for conveying any electrical signal present on the first and second electrical contacts to the data utilization device.

25 25. A communications card for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 24 the communications card compliant with the PCMCIA standard.

30 26. A communications card for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 24 wherein the recess means closely receives an RJ-xx series plug.

35 27. A communications card for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 24 wherein the means for moving comprises means for moving the first jaw and the second jaw into and out of the communications card with the first jaw and the second jaw being oriented substantially parallel to each other and means for pivoting the first jaw and the second jaw away from each other.

40 28. A communications card for use in a data utilization device and for receiving an RJ-xx series plug having a biased clip and for making electrical connection with at least first and second electrical contacts provided on the plug, comprising:

recess means for receiving the plug, the recess means having dimensions such that the plug is closely received therein;

means for rotating the recess means in an angular orientation, the angular orientation being selected from the group consisting of 90°, 180°, and 270° while maintaining operative connection with the plug;

a first electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the first electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a first electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means;

a second electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the second electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with a second electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means; and

means for conveying any electrical signal present on the first and second electrical contacts to the computing device.

29. A communications card for use in a data utilization device including a PCMCIA Type III card slot, the communications card for receiving an RJ-xx series plug having a biased clip and for making electrical connection with at least first and second electrical contacts provided on the plug, the communications card comprising:

a card body;

a plurality of conductors formed at a first end of the card body;

a shell formed on the first end of the card body, the shell extending and retracting from the first end of the card body;

a recess formed in the shell to receive the plug;

a capture member adapted for holding the biased clip;

means for moving the capture member such that the recess enlarges to closely receive the plug and engaging the biased clip such that the contacts on the plug operatively contact a respective conductor in the card body;

a second end of the card body making connection to the PCMCIA Type III card slot;

a communications device housed in the card body;
the conductors further comprising:

a first electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the first electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with the first electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means;

a second electrical conductor provided in the recess means, the second electrical conductor being positioned such that it makes electrical continuity with the second electrical contact in the plug when the plug is received by the recess means; and

means for conveying any electrical signal present on the first and second electrical contacts to the communications device.

30. A PC card for use in a data utilization device including a PCMCIA Type III card slot comprising:

an upper surface;

a lower surface;

means for receiving a magnetic disk between the upper surface and the lower surface; and

means for conveying data present on the magnetic disk to the data utilization device when the PC card is inserted into the card slot.

31. A PC card for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 30 wherein the magnetic disk comprises a cartridge having dimensions of about 2.16 inches by about 1.98 inches by about .077 inches.

32. A communications connector for use in a data utilization device, the communications connector comprising:

a socket member;

a receptacle in the socket member which closely receives an RJ-xx plug;

a bail member positioned about the receptacle, the bail member having a first collapsed position and a second open position, the RJ-xx plug passing through the bail member when the bail member is in its second open position;

a plurality of contacts formed in the receptacle, the plurality of contacts positioned to mate with corresponding contacts in the RJ-xx plug and convey signals there between;

means for retracting the socket member into the data utilization device when the bail member is in its first closed position and for extending the socket member out from the data utilization device such that the socket member is at least partially concealed when in its retracted position and such that operative contact with the RJ-xx plug can be maintained when the socket member is in its extended position.

33. A communications connector for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 32 wherein the data utilization device comprises a PC card.

34. A communications connector for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 32 wherein the RJ-xx plug is one selected from the group consisting of the RJ-11, RJ-12, and RJ-45 plugs.

35. A communications connector for use in a data utilization device as defined in claim 32 further comprising means for biasing the socket member to its extended position.

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